

INFORMATION PAPER

MCWT-HR
10 July 2013

SUBJECT: The Army Body Composition Program (ABCP)

1. Purpose: To provide information of the changes to Army Regulation (AR) 600-9, (ABCP) that affect Wounded, Injured, and Ill Soldiers.

2. Facts:

a. Effective 28 July 2013, AR 600-9, the Army Weight Control Program will be renamed to the Army Body Composition Program, and will include the changes in subparagraphs (e and g).

b. Active Component and Reserve Component Soldiers on active duty that exceed the body fat standard are flagged in accordance with AR 600-8-2, Suspension of Favorable Personnel Actions (FLAG) and enrolled in the ABCP.

c. Soldiers with a current ABCP flag are unable to request Tuition Assistance and may be limited with Transition activities in the Warrior Transition Units.

d. Soldiers assigned or attached to a Warrior Transition Unit or Community Based Warrior Transition Unit must meet the body fat standard. Soldiers with special considerations may request a temporary exception to policy (ETP).

e. The following Soldiers are exempt from the requirements of this regulation; however, they must maintain a Soldierly appearance:

(1.) Soldiers in a continued on active duty and/or continued on active reserve status.

(2.) Soldiers with major limb loss. Major limb loss is defined as an amputation above the ankle or above the wrist, which includes full hand and/or full foot loss. It does not include partial hand, foot, fingers, or toes.

(3.) Soldiers who have undergone prolonged hospitalization for 30 continuous days or greater. *NOTE: Personnel who meet the standards and are hospitalized for 30 continuous days or more will be exempt from the standards for the duration of the hospitalization and the recovery period as specified by their profile, not to exceed 90 days from discharge from the hospital. If at the end of the specified recovery period the Soldier exceeds the allowable body fat standard, a flag will be initiated on the Soldier and he or she will be enrolled in the ABCP.*

f. Soldiers will not be permanently exempt from the requirements of AR 600-9 based on chronic medical conditions however, conditions and/or medications may contribute or preclude a Soldier from progressing to compliance in the ABCP.

g. All ETP requests will include an endorsement from a medical professional and be processed through the Soldier's chain of command, with recommendations as to disposition from the company, battalion, and brigade-level commanders, reviewed by the servicing staff judge advocate, and submitted directly to Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1 (DAPE-HR) for final determination.

h. During the ETP process, a Soldier remains flagged. The Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1 (DAPE-HR) is the sole approval authority for removal of the flag. If disapproved, the flag will remain.